ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An application programming interface for a multimedia processing system creates a topology symbolically providing data flow information. A method provides a topology interface including receiving a plurality of media parameters identifying at least an identifier, a node type, a data type and a duration, and in response, creating a topology capable of being passed to a media processor as an extensible symbolic representation of an intended media flow. A computer-readable medium stores a topology function includes a first input parameter representing a unique identifier, a second input parameter representing a state of a topology, a third parameter representing a descriptor for the topology, a fourth parameter representing one or more characteristics about a node of the topology, and executable instructions adapted to provide a topology capable of being passed to a media processor as an extensible symbolic representation of an intended media flow calculated based on at least one of the input parameters.